



Family Resource Center

A Program of EdAdvance

Where Family, Community and Education Come Together

77 Main St. Terryville CT 06786



Dear Education Committee,

2/38/23

My name is Lori Borysewicz and I am the Coordinator of the Plymouth Family Resource Center in the community of Terryville/Plymouth. My work in this community is focused on supporting families and children. Our grant funding comes from CT's State Department of Education and the Office of Early Childhood. We are a program of EdAdvance where we work with the BOE collaboratively to ensure that all children birth to 5 are prepared to enter Kindergarten and ready to learn. Our NAEYC Accredited Preschool program serves children from Plymouth/Terryville and surrounding towns. The Teachers are the back bone of this program and successfully prepare each child for their entry into the Public-School system. Their ability to preform the skills needed for this success is priceless and equivalent to any teacher in the state, yet they are the most under paid members of our society!! Without the commitment of our child care workers our community would be hard pressed to manage work and family life, the core of our civilization. The educational requirements, continuing ed and mandatory training are requirements for staff. The amount of work we ask from them would never be asked in any profession. Working weekend hours and late nights without compensation is not right! Only in our profession do we say, I's OK, we do it for the kids". Most public-school teachers, nor their unions, would accept this request. We are supported by the OEC's School Readiness and uphold all the requirements for this grant. Our teachers continued to support the families in our community throughout the 2020 pandemic allowing families to continue to work even when public school was virtual.

I have been working in the Early Childhood field for over 30 years and have seen many changes in our profession. The changes are many but the one that remains unchanged is the compensation that I have had over these past 30 years, I started from the ground up. As a new mother of 27, I decided to pursue my dream of being a preschool teacher and received my Associates degree in ECE. I worked in various programs and landed at the Red Stone Hill

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Nursery School for 12 years where I built my skills and touch many lives, one's I often run into today. In 2005 I started with the Plymouth Family Resource Center, as a Parent Educator, under the EdAdvance umbrella. I then moved back into the Preschool Teacher role where I returned to school to finish my 4-year degree and became the coordinator of the Plymouth FRC. In all the years I've worked in the field I have never been given holiday or vacation pay. I am 62 years old and just started receiving these benefits in the past year. Why you may ask yourself, it's not because I wasn't competent at my job, it was because there was no extra funding for me to have them. At this time, I need to preform various jobs "wear many hats" to sustain my salary within this non-profit agency. I can not give my staff the wages they deserve and will be losing my best teacher soon as she makes her way up the professional ladder to a better paying position. I encourage all my staff to never stop learning, continue to better yourself and your knowledge, and know the value you have to each and every family you touch.

I implore this you to value these most important workers in our society, strengthen the families in our community and give all of our children the best start on their educational journey.

PLEASE increase the wages of Early Childhood Educators to be comparable to Public School Early Educators!! The future of our children depends on competent and qualified teachers to prepare them for the world that they will someday be leading!!

Please call or email, 860-516-7002 borysewicz@edadvance.org, to learn more about our program and what we have to offer Plymouth family's in our Early Childhood Educational programs.

Sincerely,
Lori J Borysewicz
Plymouth FRC Coordinator/Preschool Director
77 Main St. Terryville, CT. 06786